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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Egov Solution - Electrical Permit Search

(HELENA) --- The Department of Labor and Industry's Business Standards Division today announced the launching of a new eGovernment service enabling Montanans to look up the more than 100,000 electrical permits issued by the State Department since 1999.*

The e-gov solution, <u>www.ElectricalPermitSearch.mt.gov</u>, allows citizens the ability to search and download permit status by simply selecting one or more of the following categories: contractor name, county, date, permit type, number, status, property owner name and property address.

"What used to involve a trip into Business Standards and request for hardcopies can now be completed in the comforts of your office or home," said Labor Commissioner Keith Kelly. "Stakeholders such as banking institutions, power companies, electrical contractors, county planners, and unions will reap the most benefits from the online service."

"The new system would have saved me a considerable amount of time by having my power company look up my residential electrical permit and authorize a field representative to connect me to the power grid," said homeowner Mike Field.

Electrical Permit Search is the result of an alliance between state government and the private sector. The system was cooperatively developed and is supported by the Montana Department of Labor, Building and Measurement Standards Division, the Montana Department of Administration's Information Technology Services Division and Montana Interactive, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of eGovernment provider NIC (Nasdaq: EGOV).

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* This database does not include local government issued permits. For information about local government issued permits log onto www.mt.gov/dli/bsd/bc/crt_gov.asp